

the Cincinnati City Council; Lavaughn Booth Jr. of Chicago; and Rev. Dr. William Booth of Hampton, Virginia; and daughters Anna-Marie Booth of San Francisco, and Dr. Georgia Leeper of Memphis. He is also survived by 14 grandchildren and 3 great grandchildren. We are blessed by his life and having known him.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. KAREN MCCARTHY

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 22, 2002

Ms. MCCARTHY of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, during rollcall vote No. 484, I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

RECOGNIZING CONGRESSMAN BILL COYNE

HON. JOHN P. MURTHA

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 22, 2002

Mr. MURTHA. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to pay tribute to my long time friend and colleague. BILL COYNE will retire from this institution after serving 11 terms as a Member of this institution.

Bill is a lifelong resident of Pittsburgh, and so like myself, is a native of the southwestern Pennsylvania district he has so faithfully represented for the past 22 years.

The 14th District includes the city of Pittsburgh as well as 33 other surrounding communities in the very heart of this country's steel producing center. From his post as a senior member of the Ways and Means Committee, he has been able to develop and promote countless economic policy initiatives to the benefit of the Southwestern region as well as the Nation, including those dealing with Social Security, trade, tax reform, health care, housing and community development, job creation, and job training.

In addition to serving as ranking member of the Ways and Means Oversight Subcommittee BILL has served on the Banking Committee, the Budget Committee, the Committee on House Administration, and the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct. He has consistently used his committee assignments to promote federal policies to the benefit of urban America.

During the 103rd Congress, BILL succeeded in making the tax-exempt Industrial Development Bond permanent. IDB's helped to create or retain more than 26,000 manufacturing jobs in Pennsylvania alone between 1987 and 1992. He also led the successful House Ways and Means opposition to a proposed \$1 per gallon hike in the Federal fuel tax for waterway commerce in 1993, which was of enormous economic benefit for the Three Rivers area he represents.

Bill also successfully inserted language in the 1993 reconciliation bill that provided low-income workers with an improved opportunity to receive an Earned Income Tax Credit on a monthly basis, instead of waiting for a single annual payment.

In the 104th Congress, BILL COYNE worked with many of his Democratic colleagues to protect Federal funding for programs serving children, seniors, and working families, and to ensure that the burden of Federal taxation was not disproportionately borne by working families. He also worked to provide tax incentives for businesses and municipalities to clean up and redevelop abandoned industrial sites, and he worked to expand protection for workers' rights in international trade agreements.

In the 105th Congress, he worked for middle-class tax relief while balancing the Federal budget responsibly. He was a supporter of both the Taxpayer Relief Act of 1997 and the Balanced Budget Act of 1997. He worked successfully to include a provision in the Taxpayer Relief Act of 1997 which allowed businesses to deduct the cost of cleaning up brownfields sites in certain targeted areas. He was also actively involved in developing and enacting legislation to reform the Internal Revenue Service, and much of his Taxpayer Bill of Rights legislation was in that bill.

BILL COYNE worked to make organ transplant regulations fairer and worked with me to make the Disproportionate Share Hospital program's formula for hospitals fairer as well. He also worked to provide nearly \$800 million in projects for his district in the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century (TEA-21) including reconstruction of Drake, Library and Overbrook trolley lines, construction of an extension of the MLK Jr. Busway, construction of an industrial access road in Lawrenceville, and construction of transit links between downtown and the North Shore.

During the 106th Congress, BILL COYNE continued to work to protect federal programs that serve children, senior citizens, the disabled, and working families; enact a Medicare prescription drug benefit; strengthen U.S. laws that punish unfair foreign trade practices; protect Americans' pensions and other retirement benefits; increase funding for medical research and education; and make the Federal Tax Code simpler and fairer by reforming the capital gains tax and the alternative minimum tax. He also worked successfully to increase public awareness about food stamp eligibility and to expand the brownfields tax provision and push back its expiration date by several years.

BILL COYNE is a graduate of Central Catholic High School and Robert Morris College. He served in the United States Army in Korea from 1955 to 1957. He worked as a corporate accountant for 13 years before entering politics in 1970. He served in the Pennsylvania House of Representatives from 1971 to 1972 and on the Pittsburgh City Council from 1973 until 1980.

I'm proud to have served alongside BILL COYNE and worked with him for these many years for the benefit of our adjoining districts and Pennsylvania as a whole. BILL's seniority on Ways and Means will be sorely missed by Pennsylvania. His expertise as a legislator will be missed by all Americans who were helped by his good work. His good nature, friendship, and collegiality will I know be missed by his fellow Pennsylvania Members and indeed by all of us here in the House of Representatives. Please join me in wishing him well in his retirement from public service.

IN HONOR OF STEPHEN
BRAUNGINN

HON. TAMMY BALDWIN

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 22, 2002

Ms. BALDWIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Stephen Braunginn, President and CEO of the Urban League of Greater Madison for his work in the community.

As a leader in the Urban League movement and in the Madison area community, Mr. Braunginn has focused on the continuing struggle for equal opportunity for all with a special focus on African Americans, other people of color, those with disabilities and the disadvantaged.

Prior to working with the Urban League, Steve served as the Deputy Director for the Wisconsin Clearinghouse for Prevention Resources for over four years. He was the first Director of Multicultural Affairs and Special Interest Groups for the Wisconsin Alumni Association at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

He is also an educator, having taught in the Madison Schools for six years, working with students with learning disabilities and the gifted and talented. He served as a leader on the Wisconsin Education Association Council (WEAC) where he was also the leader of Teachers for a Free South Africa. In addition, Steve became active in developing a middle school for South Madison. When he was a teacher at Cherokee Middle School, he served on the Urban League Board of Directors, where he later became chair, serving for two years. During his tenure on the Urban League Board, Steve was selected to serve on the Madison School's South Madison Advisory Committee, which eventually developed the framework for Madison Middle School 2000 which later became James C. Wright Middle School.

Steve served on the Dane County Board of Supervisors for six years. During this time he chaired the Personnel and Finance Committee and the Dane County Human Services Board. He has been on many community commissions, served numerous organizations, and has also received a variety of awards for his service to the Madison area community.

As the Wisconsin Community Fund honors Steve Braunginn, I am proud to join them in thanking him for his dedication and service to the community.

LONG ISLAND'S HOUSING CRISIS

HON. STEVE ISRAEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 22, 2002

Mr. ISRAEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to once again note the severe affordable housing crisis my constituents face on Long Island.

Today's Newsday carried an article by Christian Murray revealing some truly disturbing statistics. According to the U.S. Census Bureau, 26 percent of Long Island households pay more than 35 percent of their gross monthly income on either rent or mortgage. For over fifty years Americans have been cautioned to keep housing expenses under 25 percent of their income. The 35 percent average is a genuine crisis.